Chapter 6: Tertiary and Quaternary Activities

Exercises — Exercises

Q1 Which one of the following is a tertiary activity? (a) Farming (b) Trading (c) Weaving (d) Hunting

(b) Trading. Trade is a service that involves buying and selling goods produced elsewhere, so it is a tertiary activity. Farming and hunting are primary activities, and weaving is a secondary activity.

Q2 Which one of the following activities is NOT a secondary sector activity? (a) Iron Smelting (b) Catching fish (c) Making garments (d) Basket Weaving

(b) Catching fish. Fishing takes a resource directly from nature, so it is a primary activity. Iron smelting, making garments and basket weaving all process raw materials into finished goods, so they are secondary activities.

Q3 Which one of the following sectors provides most of the employment in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata? (a) Primary (b) Quaternary (c) Secondary (d) Service

(d) Service. Large metropolitan cities are centres of trade, transport, communication, health, education and other services, so most of their workers are employed in the service (tertiary) sector.

Q4 Jobs that involve high degrees and level of innovations are known as: (a) Secondary activities (b) Quaternary activities (c) Quinary activities (d) Primary activities

(c) Quinary activities. These are performed by the highest-level decision and policy makers and focus on creating, re-arranging and interpreting new ideas and evaluating new technologies. Primary and secondary activities do not centre on innovation.

Q5 Which one of the following activities is related to the quaternary sector? (a) Manufacturing computers (b) Paper and raw pulp production (c) University teaching (d) Printing books

(c) University teaching. The quaternary sector is knowledge-oriented and covers the collection, production and dissemination of information, including classroom teaching. The other options involve making physical goods, which is secondary activity.

Q6 Which one out of the following statements is not true? (a) Outsourcing reduces costs and increases efficiency. (b) At times engineering and manufacturing jobs can also be outsourced. (c) BPOs have better business opportunities as compared to KPOs. (d) There may be dissatisfaction among job seekers in the countries that outsource the job.

(c) is not true. KPOs involve highly skilled, information-driven knowledge work and are distinct from BPOs, so they offer companies additional business opportunities. The other statements match the chapter: outsourcing cuts costs, can include engineering and manufacturing, and causes resentment among job seekers in outsourcing countries.

Q7 Explain retail trading service (in about 30 words).

Retail trading is the sale of goods directly to consumers. It mostly takes place in fixed stores devoted to selling. Street peddling, handcarts, door-to-door, mail-order, vending machines and the internet are non-store forms.

Q8 Describe quaternary services (in about 30 words).

Quaternary activities are knowledge-oriented services involving the collection, production and dissemination of information. They centre on research and development and need specialised knowledge and technical skills. Examples are software developers, tax consultants and statisticians.

Q9 Name the fast emerging countries of medical tourism in the world (in about 30 words).

India has emerged as the leading country of medical tourism in the world. Other developing countries that benefit from it are Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia. Their world-class hospitals attract patients from abroad.

Q10 What is digital divide (in about 30 words)?

The digital divide is the uneven distribution of the opportunities from information and communication technology. Developed countries have surged ahead while developing countries lag behind. Divides also exist within countries, between metropolitan centres and rural areas.

Q11 Discuss the significance and growth of the service sector in modern economic development (in not more than 150 words).

Tertiary activities are services provided in exchange for payment, such as health, education, law, governance, trade, transport and communication. Their output is the commercial supply of services rather than tangible goods, and they rely on the skills, experience and knowledge of trained workers. In the early stages of development most people work in the primary sector. In a developed economy the majority work in tertiary activities, and a moderate share in the secondary sector. Today most people are service workers, and developed countries employ a higher percentage of workers in services than less developed ones. Employment in this sector keeps increasing while it is unchanged or falling in primary and secondary activities. Along with the quaternary sector, services have replaced most primary and secondary employment as the basis for economic growth. Over half of all workers in developed economies are in the knowledge sector. Tourism, the largest tertiary activity, generates about 250 million jobs.

Q12 Explain in detail the significance of transport and communication services (in not more than 150 words).

Transport physically carries people, materials and manufactured goods from one place to another and satisfies the basic human need for mobility. Modern society needs fast, efficient transport to support the production, distribution and consumption of goods, and at every stage transport significantly enhances the value of materials. Demand for transport grows with population, and places become linked into networks of nodes and links. Communication involves the transmission of words, messages, facts and ideas. Early messages travelled by hand, animals, boat, road, rail and air, so transport routes are also called lines of communication. Telecommunications have cut message time from weeks to minutes, and mobile telephony makes contact direct and instant from anywhere. Radio, television and newspapers act as mass media for news, advertising and entertainment. Satellites relay information between the earth and space, and the internet has revolutionised global communication. Post offices still handle very large volumes of mail.